PRINCESS COMICS

ブルージェ

—アプローズ—

有吉京子

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PRINCESS COMICS

プリンセス・コミックス

"宿命"の二人、娑羅とシュナックの
出会いを描く「ブルージュ」ほか、
2編を収録した最新読み切り作品集!

Princess Comics (Serialized in *Bessatsu Princess*)

Bruges

—Applause—

Ariyoshi Kyouko

Bruges
—Applause—

Contents

Bruges.....5

Voyage.....105

A San Francisco Story.....161

Dreaming of Flying Through the Sky...196

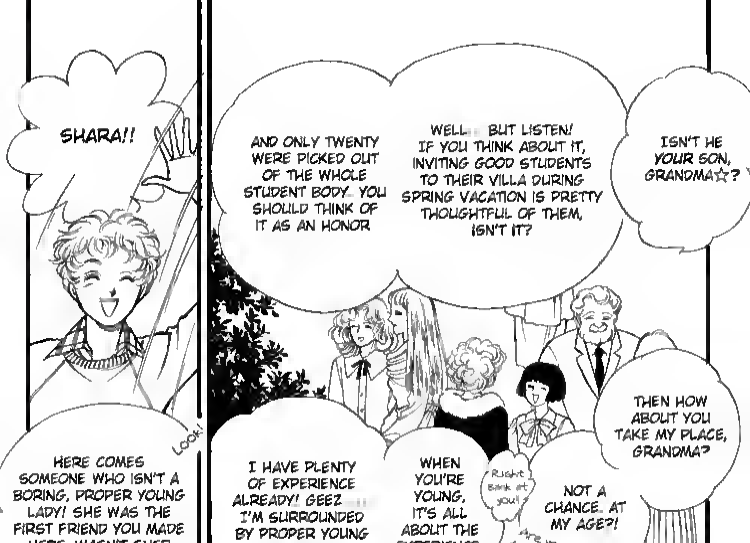
Bruges*

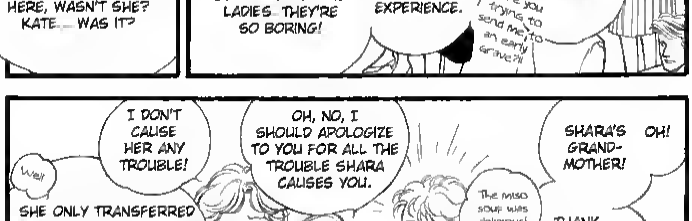
*note: A city in Belgium. Also known as Brugge.

If I— should end up dying first.....

I ask that you please do—as we've always discussed with my remains.....

sigh
Ah-hah
WHAT?
GRAND-MA
I THINK IT WAS A MISTAKE FOR ME TO TRANSFER HERE
WHY?
NO SCHOOL BACK IN JAPAN EVER HAD A VILLA LIKE THIS ONE
DOESN'T THAT MAKE IT INTER-ESTING?
NO! I WANT TO GO TO A NORMAL SCHOOL.
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT THAT.
YOU KNOW HOW YOUR FATHER LIKES TO SHOW OFF.
-Honestly! He's only an attache for the Japanese embassy but he's always putting on airs. Cheeky!


SHARA!!
Look!
HERE COMES SOMEONE WHO ISN'T A BORING, PROPER YOUNG LADY! SHE WAS THE FIRST FRIEND YOU MADE HERE, WASN'T SHE? KATE... WAS IT?
I HAVE PLENTY OF EXPERIENCE ALREADY! GEEZ... I'M SURROUNDED BY PROPER YOUNG LADIES. THEY'RE SO BORING!
AND ONLY TWENTY WERE PICKED OUT OF THE WHOLE STUDENT BODY. YOU SHOULD THINK OF IT AS AN HONOR
WELL... BUT LISTEN! IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, INVITING GOOD STUDENTS TO THEIR VILLA DURING SPRING VACATION IS PRETTY THOUGHTFUL OF THEM, ISN'T IT?
ISN'T HE YOUR SON, GRANDMA☆?
WHEN YOU'RE YOUNG, IT'S ALL ABOUT THE EXPERIENCE.
Right back at you!
Are you trying to send me to an early grave?!
NOT A CHANCE. AT MY AGE?!
THEN HOW ABOUT YOU TAKE MY PLACE, GRANDMA?


I DON'T CAUSE HER ANY TROUBLE!
Well
SHE ONLY TRANSFERRED HERE THREE MONTHS AGO, SO THERE ARE MANY THINGS SHE'S STILL UNFAMILIAR WITH. PLEASE LOOK AFTER HER FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS
OH, NO, I SHOULD APOLOGIZE TO YOU FOR ALL THE TROUBLE SHARA CAUSES YOU.
The miso soup was delicious! ♥
SHARA'S GRAND-MOTHER!
OH!
THANK YOU FOR HAVING ME OVER THE OTHER DAY

I'D PREFER TO RELAX AT HOME — I JUST CAME TO SEE THE AREA
OH, NO,
Have a good time, Shara!☺
Grandma!!
HEY!
I'LL BE OFF NOW, THEN
OH, PARENTS AND GUARDIANS ARE ALLOWED TO STAY TOO

THE DRAMA CLUB ORGANIZES THE GAMES AND COMES UP WITH THE THEMES CONFESSION GAMES, LOVE GAMES, THAT SORT OF THING.
THAT'S RIGHT! IT'S THE MAIN EVENT OF THE SPRING GET-TOGETHER.—
GAME?
PLEASE GATHER IN THE HALL!
Will everyone
Goodbye
YOU AND I ARE THE ONLY FIFTH-YEAR STUDENTS HERE,
MY PARENTS GAVE EXCUSES LIKE THAT FOR NOT COMING TOO.
WELL,
URK... SO SHE BETRAYED ME. SHE CAME ALL THE WAY HERE...
Right?
There there
SO LET'S BE GOOD FRIENDS FOR EACH OTHER.♡ THERE'S A FUN GAME TO PLAY, TOO!

HEY, DO YOU KNOW WHO SHINACK MIRK*IS? SHE'S TWO GRADES AHEAD OF US.
WORD IS THAT THIS YEAR'S IS DEFINITELY GOING TO BE INTERESTING.
Now, now
WHAT THE HECK?!
BLEGH!

*note. This name is likely a reference to Shonach Mirk, a dancer.

IT'S NICE TO SEE YOU ALL AGAIN.
GOOD DAY, EVERYONE.
THE CEREMONY IS STARTING NOW,
SO LET'S GO INSIDE.
Shuuu
I HEARD SHE CAME UP WITH THE SCENARIO FOR THIS YEAR'S GAME!
NO.
SHE'S REALLY TALENTED! SHE'S THE STAR OF THE DRAMA CLUB!
Shunack... I've heard that name somewhere before
Shuuu
HEY, LOOK!
C'MON, LET'S GO TOO!
IT'S VIVIANE!

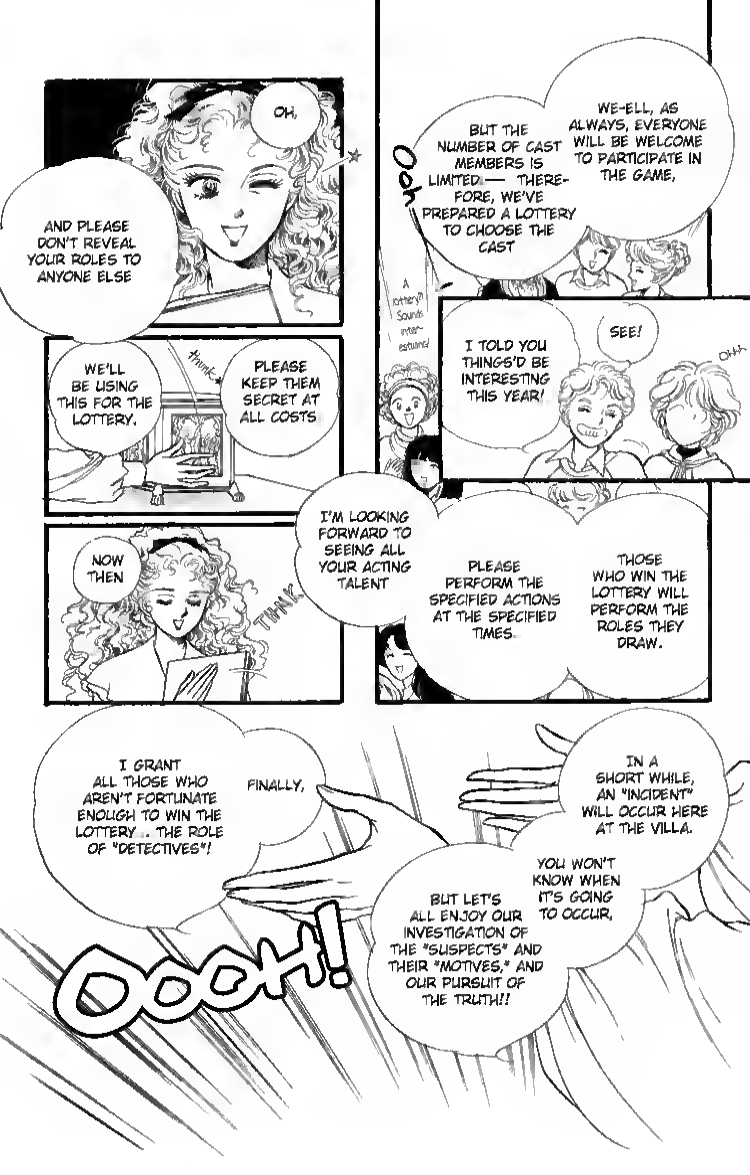
*note. Teacher

CONGRATULATIONS ON BEING SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE. YOUR GRADES WERE EXCELLENT AGAIN THIS YEAR.
OF COURSE I REMEMBER YOU.
AND— WHO MIGHT THIS BE?
I'M HERE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ACTIVITIES AGAIN THIS YEAR. MY NAME'S KATE BLACK. I'M A TRANSFER STUDENT FROM AMERICA!
SENSEI! IT'S BEEN A WHILE!
OH
DO YOU REMEMBER ME?
KISARAGI SHARA. SHE TRANSFERRED HERE FROM JAPAN THREE MONTHS AGO.
THIS IS
And— she smells nice
She's pretty
IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU
OH- YES
LET'S ENJOY THE NEXT TWO WEEKS.
I'M PLEASED WE WERE ABLE TO MEET AT THE BRUGES VILLA LIKE THIS.
CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU AS WELL, SHARA.

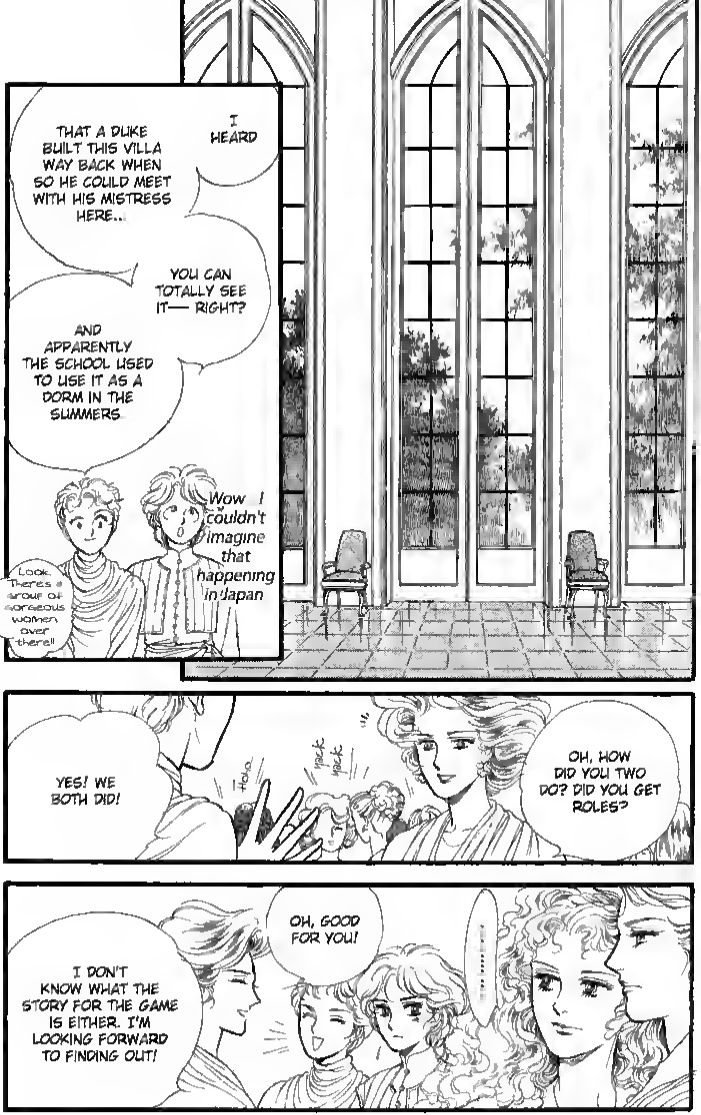
.....
ALL RIGHT.
JEAN
VIVIANE.
I NEED — TO TALK WITH YOU FOR A MINUTE.
Heeey
I'VE NEVER SEEN HER AT THE SCHOOL BEFORE.
SHE'S OUR TEACHER?
SHE'S REALLY POPULAR WITH ALL THE STUDENTS!
ISN'T SHE AWESOME?!
SOME STUDENTS WORK TO GET GOOD GRADES JUST SO THEY CAN SPEND SPRING BREAK WITH VIVIANE-SENSEI.
THEY ONLY TEACH CLASSES FOR ABOUT TWO MONTHS OF THE YEAR.
BOTH OF THEM ARE SPECIAL INSTRUCTORS.
HE'S KIND OF ALOOF, NOT TO MENTION A LITTLE SCARY, BUT HE'S REALLY POPULAR TOO.
AND JEAN-SENSEI IS HERE TO LEAD THE GROUP THIS YEAR.
SHE'S IN CHARGE OF THE STUDENTS AT THE VILLA EVERY YEAR.—
I'm a fan of his!
I can imagine ... She has a strange appeal

PLEASE BE SURE TO CONDUCT YOURSELVES IN A PROPER AND ORDERLY MANNER—ONE BEFITTING THE CHILDREN OF FAMILIES SUCH AS YOURS—WHILE YOU'RE HERE.
WE-ELL, ON THAT NOTE, —
I'D PARTICULARLY LIKE TO STRESS THAT TO THE PARENTS AND GUARDIANS HERE —
WE'LL CONCLUDE
WITH AN EXPLANATION FROM THE DRAMA CLUB OF THIS YEAR'S GAME, WHICH I'M SURE YOU'VE ALL BEEN AWAITING WITH BATED BREATH.
Ahem!
OH!
I'M SHUNACK MIRK. I'M A SEVENTH-YEAR STUDENT.
I'M VERY PLEASED TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE THIS TWO-WEEK VACATION WITH ALL OF YOU.
That's her...! It's her!!
.....I knew it.

I'M SURE EVERYONE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO THE GAME AGAIN THIS YEAR.
She was so pretty, standing there in the light... I was captivated by her. I stared at her for what felt like forever
Three months ago—my first day at the new school—I saw her in the library....
THIS YEAR'S THEME IS "ACTING."
I'VE CONSTRUCTED A SCENARIO BASED ON A CERTAIN MURDER CASE
Oh...h. So she's—...
Someone called her "Shunack."
OOH—!
THIS IS A GAME
ONLY A GAME.
PLEASE LAY YOUR WORRIES TO REST, PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.
murmur murmur
MY! I'M SURPRISED THE TEACHERS ARE ALLOWING IT!
A MURDER CASE?
WELL, THE MIRK FAMILY... HAS AN IMPRESSIVE LINEAGE, AND THEY MAKE A HEFTY DONATION EVERY YEAR!


OH,
AND PLEASE DON'T REVEAL YOUR ROLES TO ANYONE ELSE
WE'LL BE USING THIS FOR THE LOTTERY.
thunk
PLEASE KEEP THEM SECRET AT ALL COSTS
NOW THEN
THNK
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING ALL YOUR ACTING TALENT
BUT THE NUMBER OF CAST MEMBERS IS LIMITED.— THEREFORE, WE'VE PREPARED A LOTTERY TO CHOOSE THE CAST
WE-ELL, AS ALWAYS, EVERYONE WILL BE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GAME.
Ooh
A lottery?! Sounds interesting!
I TOLD YOU THINGS'D BE INTERESTING THIS YEAR!
SEE!
OHH
PLEASE PERFORM THE SPECIFIED ACTIONS AT THE SPECIFIED TIMES.
THOSE WHO WIN THE LOTTERY WILL PERFORM THE ROLES THEY DRAW.
I GRANT ALL THOSE WHO AREN'T FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO WIN THE LOTTERY .. THE ROLE OF "DETECTIVES"!
FINALLY,
IN A SHORT WHILE, AN "INCIDENT" WILL OCCUR HERE AT THE VILLA.
YOU WON'T KNOW WHEN IT'S GOING TO OCCUR.
BUT LET'S ALL ENJOY OUR INVESTIGATION OF THE "SUSPECTS" AND THEIR "MOTIVES," AND OUR PURSUIT OF THE TRUTH!!
Oooh!!

Gack! ☆ What's this?!
A "witness"?! Go to the boathouse at four?! The boathouse?
Um
Rummage rummage
EVERYONE, PLEASE COME FORWARD
AND DRAW ONE WHEN IT'S YOUR TURN
Grab grab
Chatter chatter
There's a map.
Oh, thank God.
AHH! I DIDN'T GET ONE! DARN!
Ooh!
GOOD GOING!!
OH UH—M, ME TOO, KINDA.
HOW 'BOUT YOU?
SHARA! SHARA! I GOT A BIG ROLE!
Oh!
THE PARTY'S STARTING! WE GOTTA GO CHANGE!
Oh, not telling is so hard!!
MY ROLE IS SO AWESOME!! I REALLY LUCKED OUT! I'M SO EXCITED!
SHOW US WHAT YOU CAN DO!
YOU SAID YOU WERE IN YOUR SCHOOL'S DRAMA CLUB BACK IN JAPAN!


I HEARD
THAT A DUKE BUILT THIS VILLA WAY BACK WHEN SO HE COULD MEET WITH HIS MISTRESS HERE...
YOU CAN TOTALLY SEE IT— RIGHT?
AND APPARENTLY THE SCHOOL USED TO USE IT AS A DORM IN THE SUMMERS
Wow I couldn't imagine that happening in Japan
Look. There's a group of gorgeous women over there!!
YES! WE BOTH DID!
Hoho
Mock mock
OH, HOW DID YOU TWO DO? DID YOU GET ROLES?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE STORY FOR THE GAME IS EITHER. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO FINDING OUT!
OH, GOOD FOR YOU!
Hmm...

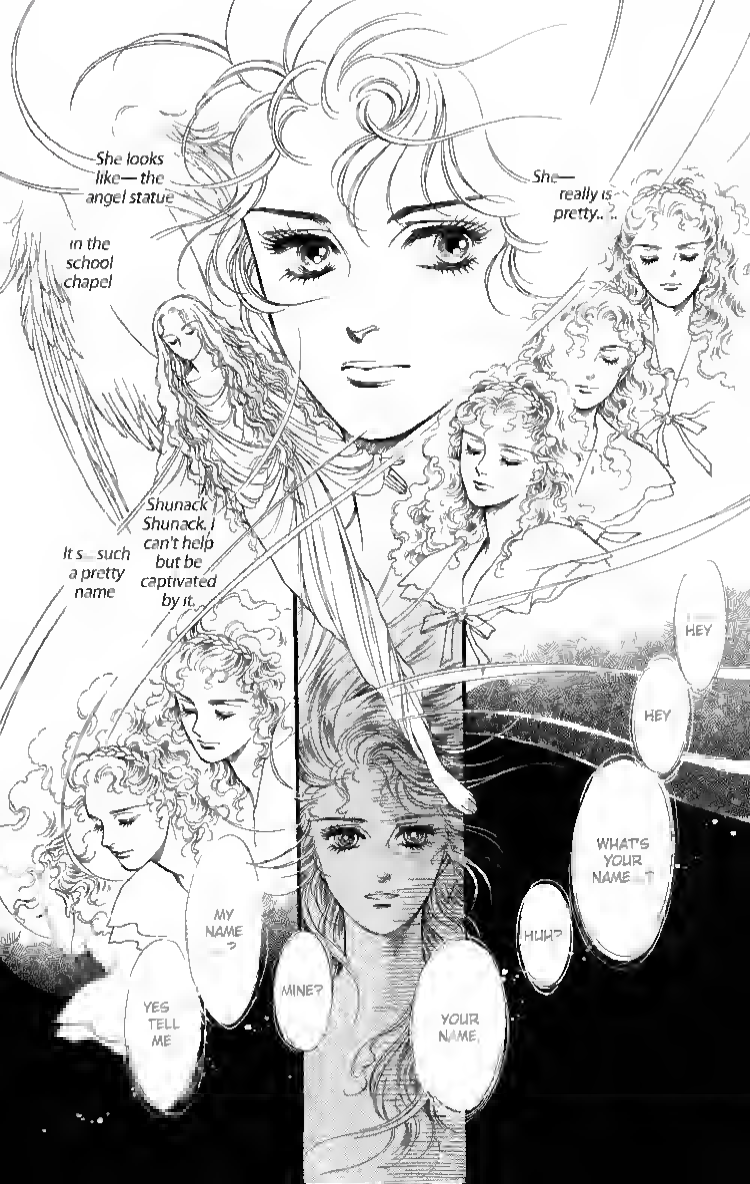
What are they talking about? How nasty
GIGGLE.. GIGGLE
WHISPER WHISPER
You shouldn't look at people and laugh like that.
LOOK, HE'S GOT HIS EYE ON YOU
SHOULD WATCH OUT. HE'S DANGEROUS.
YOU
Was she really talking to me just now?
What? That teacher? What's that supposed to mean?
Oh! Crap! It's four o'clock. I have to go to the boathouse.
URGHhhh! I'M REALLY FEELING DOWN NOW..
WISH I COULD JUST SKIP THIS
Oh? She's gone? Where did she go?
HEY, KATE.

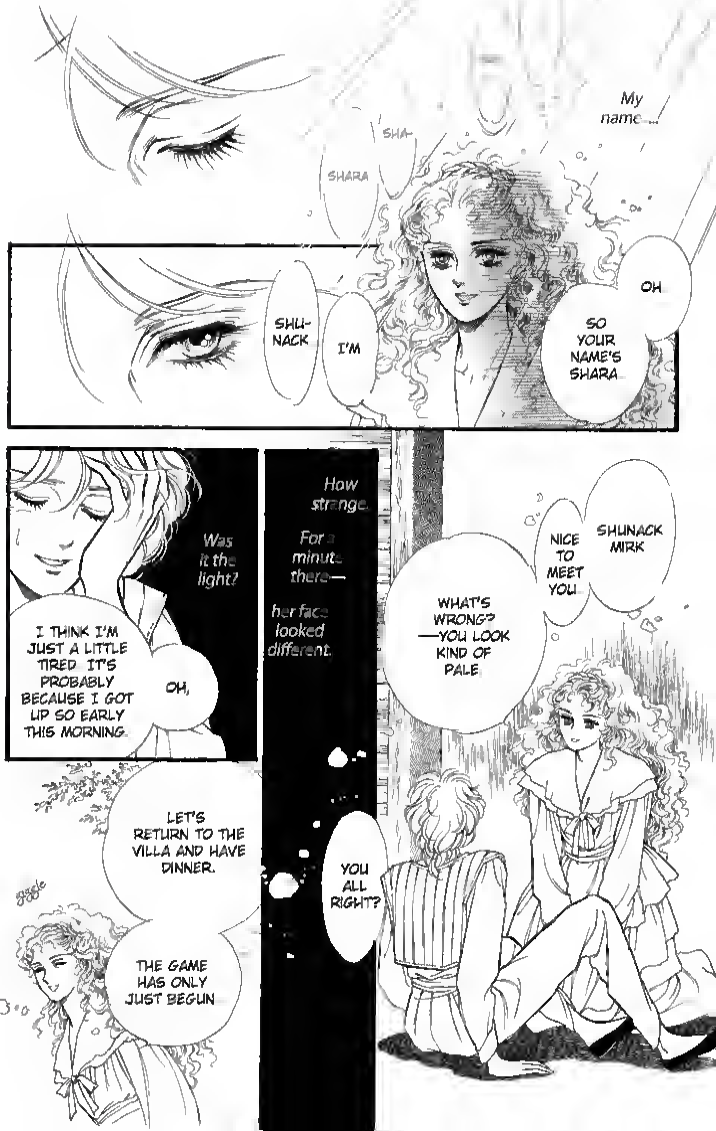
ssssssssss...
OH .....
THIS MUST BE IT.
I must be good!
mutter mutter
GO ME
Hey, this map is totally off I'm amazed I made it here! —Geez
—I think. Well, maybe not.
Scritch
Students must've made those scratches, for fun.
This boat-house is pretty old
I wonder when it was built?

Aaaa

YOU SHOULDN'T FOLLOW HIM HE'S DANGEROUS
DON'T DO IT
ALL RIGHT?
Shunack?!
SHHH!
Wh-what
U-um... UM...
is she doing here...?!
AREN'T YOU CURIOUS ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED?
LET'S GO TAKE A LOOK IN THE BOAT-HOUSE!
ANYWAY,
LOOKS LIKE THERE'S NOBODY HERE.
CREAK...
scritch scritch
Oh...That's right This is.... a play that she wrote.
I'd... forgotten that for a minute

It's..... pretty dark in her...
And it feels kind of cold and lonely too.....
This place must not get much sunlight since it's in the forest
Oh— but there is a little coming in through that window there...
WHAT'S THIS?
IT'S WOMEN'S CLOTHING.
WHY WOULD IT BE HERE?
IT'S ONE OF OUR SCHOOL'S UNIFORMS.


She looks like— the angel statue in the school chapel
She— really is pretty..?
It's... such a pretty name
Shunack Shunack, I can't help but be captivated by it.
HEY
HEY
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
HUH?
YOUR NAME,
MINE?
MY NAME?
YES TELL ME


My name...
SHA-
SHARA
OH
SO YOUR NAME'S SHARA
SHU-
NACK
I'M
SHUNACK MIRK
NICE TO MEET YOU
WHAT'S WRONG? —YOU LOOK KIND OF PALE
YOU ALL RIGHT?
How strange.
For a minut... there—
her face looked different
Was it the light?
I THINK I'M JUST A LITTLE TIRED. IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE I GOT UP SO EARLY THIS MORNING.
OH,
LET'S RETURN TO THE VILLA AND HAVE DINNER.
giggle
THE GAME HAS ONLY JUST BEGUN

chirp
chirp
chirp
chirp
tweet tweet
YOUR ATTENTION, PLEASE!!
SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAS HAPPENED!!
A FEMALE STUDENT...
HAS BEEN MISSING FROM THE VILLA SINCE LAST NIGHT!
WE ARE SEARCHING FOR CLUES AT THE MOMENT...
yack yack
BUT THERE'S NO INDICATION THAT SHE RETURNED TO HER ROOM AT ALL LAST NIGHT
yack
WHAAAAT!?
HER ROOMMATE CAN ATTEST TO THAT.
SHARA.

Oh, no
What should I say?
It's true that Kate never came back last night
—I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR HER, BUT..
UM..... I HAVEN'T SEEN HER SINCE THE PARTY YESTERDAY.
OH... YES..
scrape
YOU SHOULD TELL EVERYONE WHAT HAPPENED AT THE BOATHOUSE, TOO.
SHARA
Um...
But wasn't that just part of the play?
I THINK IT BELONGED TO A MAN. HE CAME RUNNING OUT OF THE BOATHOUSE. UM— RIGHT BEFORE THAT, I HEARD A WOMAN SCREAM..
I DIDN'T REALLY SEE... MUCH OF ANY-THING. JUST SOMEONE'S SHADOW.
SHARA,
PLEASE TELL US ABOUT THAT IN DETAIL.
HUH—? BUT THAT WAS...
SHE SAW A SUSPICIOUS-LOOKING PERSON AT THE BOAT-HOUSE.

THERE WAS NOBODY THERE.
HOW-EVER!
Ohhhh!
A scream!
IT WAS THESE A SCHOOL UNIFORM,
AND A MAN'S COAT.
WHAT WAS IT?
SOME-THING STRANGE?
SOMETHING STRANGE IN THE BOAT-HOUSE.
WE FOUND
chatter chatter
drip
MAYBE HE ALREADY KILLED HER, AND PUT THE BODY SOME-WHERE—!
tick tock
SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED.
WHY ELSE WOULD THESE HAVE BEEN THERE .....?
AND THE FACT THAT SOMEONE SCREAMED...

It's all— part of the play☆ Everything is_
I feel _ kind of funny
I'm getting dizzy..
Oh
SHARA!
IN DETAIL!
PLEASE TELL US ABOUT WHAT YOU SAW AGAIN.
OUR "WITNESS" IS AGITATED.
WHICH IS PERFECTLY UNDERSTAND-ABLE.
Oh.....
So Kate—

drew the role of the "victim," huh?
I see now
PLEASE DON'T REVEAL YOUR ROLES TO ANYONE ELSE
I do get why she didn't tell me— but I have no idea where she is now.
I was worried about her!
She could've at least said something about it to me!
MY ROLE IS SO AWE-SOME!!
I'M SO EXCIT-ED!
SIGH!
—It's all kind of tiring
WHAT'S SO FUN ABOUT THIS GAME, ANYWAY?!!
SO!
Will she stay hidden until the game is over?
No way! That would be ridiculous ☆
I wonder if she's hiding somewhere? I think she's probably somewhere inside the villa—
BATTLE
I wish I'd never come here in the first pl—

Kate?
— WHO'S THERE?
Are they at the window?
No ... who is it?
I can't see very w—

Ahhhhh!
SHARA!! WHAT'S WRONG?! —YOU ALL RIGHT?!
slam!
thud thud
WHAT?!
WHAT'S WRONG?— DID SOMEONE JUST SCREAM?!
SHARA?!
IT CAME FROM NEXT DOOR!!
AND REACHED FOR... MY NECK
SOMEONE ... SOMEONE... CAME IN THROUGH THE WINDOW
YOUR NECK ...?
SILENCE

WHAT... WAS IT? AND WHY ME...?
That's going too far!... It really scared me..!
Is... is this part of the play too?
SHARA,
THIS WASN'T IN THE SCENARIO
I CON-STRUCT-ED.
Huh—? But yesterday, she told me not to go after him...
LOOK!
OVER THERE!
SOMEONE'S CROSSING THE GARDEN!
dash dash
LET'S
GO AFTER HIM, EVERY-ONE!!
BE CAREFUL! SOMEONE BRING A LIGHT!

WHISSS

—UM,
IF IT WASN'T PART OF YOUR SCENARIO...
THEN WHO..... COULD HAVE DONE THIS... AND WHY...?

.....THEY PROBABLY DID IT
BECAUSE YOU'RE A "WITNESS."

Huh?!

BUT THANKS TO THE MOON-LIGHT,
WE CAN SEE THE AREA WELL.
IT'S A BIG HELP.

S-I-G-H-
IT SEEMS..... WE'VE GOTTEN SEPARATED FROM THE GROUP.

Argh.. Geez! I'm so confused now!
THAT'S JUST IN THE PLAY!!
BUT
SO— IF WHAT HAPPENED JUST NOW WASN'T PART OF THE PLAY...
HEY,
HOW ABOUT WE TRY THE BOAT-HOUSE?
THIS—
IS A TRUE STORY, SHAR

IT— REALLY HAPPENED, 15 YEARS AGO.
THEY STILL HAVEN'T FOUND THE STUDENT THAT WENT MISSING AT THE VILLA.
I BASED THE SCENARIO ON THE REAL INCIDENT—
I USED RECORDS FROM THE TIME PERIOD TO DO IT.
BUT—
IT WASN'T REALLY A MURDER, WAS IT?!
ACCORDING TO THE RUMORS, THE GIRL WAS HAVING AN ILLICIT LOVE AFFAIR.
THIS WAS BACK WHEN THE VILLA WAS BEING USED AS A DORM.—
EVERY NIGHT,
SHE'D SNEAK OUT OF THE VILLA TO SEE "HIM."
shudder
SHE'D MEET WITH HIM RIGHT HERE IN THIS BOAT-HOUSE —

One day, she slipped away from their watchful eyes,
and came to this boathouse once again
In time—the school found out about it.
But... she refused to tell the teachers the man's name, no matter how many times they asked
SOMEONE WITNESSED THEM MEETING MANY TIMES—
AN OLD MAN WHO WORKED HERE AT THE VILLA...
HE SAID HE SOMETIMES SAW THE STUDENT GO INTO THE BOATHOUSE AT NIGHT,
AND THAT
A MAN ALWAYS FOLLOWED SOON AFTER
THAT'S
ALL WE KNOW.

THE MAN... HAD A FIANCEE.
MAYBE— SHE THREW HERSELF INTO THE CANAL IN HER DESPAIR.
OR MAYBE— HE KILLED HER BECAUSE HE WAS AFRAID THE SCANDAL WOULD COME TO LIGHT.
THOSE WERE THE RUMORS.

But— they never found out what really happened.

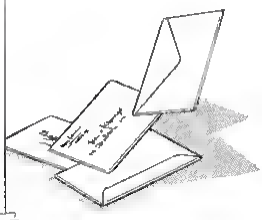
—Shall I end my life...?

I'll do it.

"SO PLEASE BE HONEST."

"AND TELL ME IF YOU'D LIKE ME TO."

A while later, they found... a number of letters that she'd written to "him."



OH...

SHARA

ARE YOU... ARE YOU— CRYING?

I DON'T KNOW.....
THE TEARS ARE JUST... FLOWING OUT.
...YOU ALL RIGHT?
.....SHARA.
THE BOAT-HOUSE —
THAT THE GIRL'S FEELINGS— STILL HAUNT...
IT'S PROBABLY
DON'T YOU.....?
YOU FEEL IT TOO,
THAT MEANS THAT THE MAN KNEW SHE WAS GOING TO DIE AND LET HER GO THROUGH WITH IT
EVEN IF— SHE DIED FOR THE SAKE OF "LOVE,"

IT WAS... HER LAST REQUEST, BUT NOBODY KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT IT WAS.
IT WAS PROBABLY NEVER CARRIED OUT.
I CAME UP WITH THE IDEA OF DOING THIS PLAY SO THAT WE COULD FULFILL HER WISHES
OH....
HER FINAL LETTER TO HIM SAID:
I ask that you please do as we've always discussed with my remains
BUT THE PART AFTER THAT IS ILLEGIBLE, BECAUSE HER TEARS FELL ON THE PAGE AND BLURRED THE LETTERS
It's a tragic love story that's spread among the students at the school
I'M SURE "HE" WILL APPEAR
HE WILL IF HE TRULY LOVED HER, AT LEAST...
AND —
HE'LL KNOW... WHAT HER WISHES WERE.

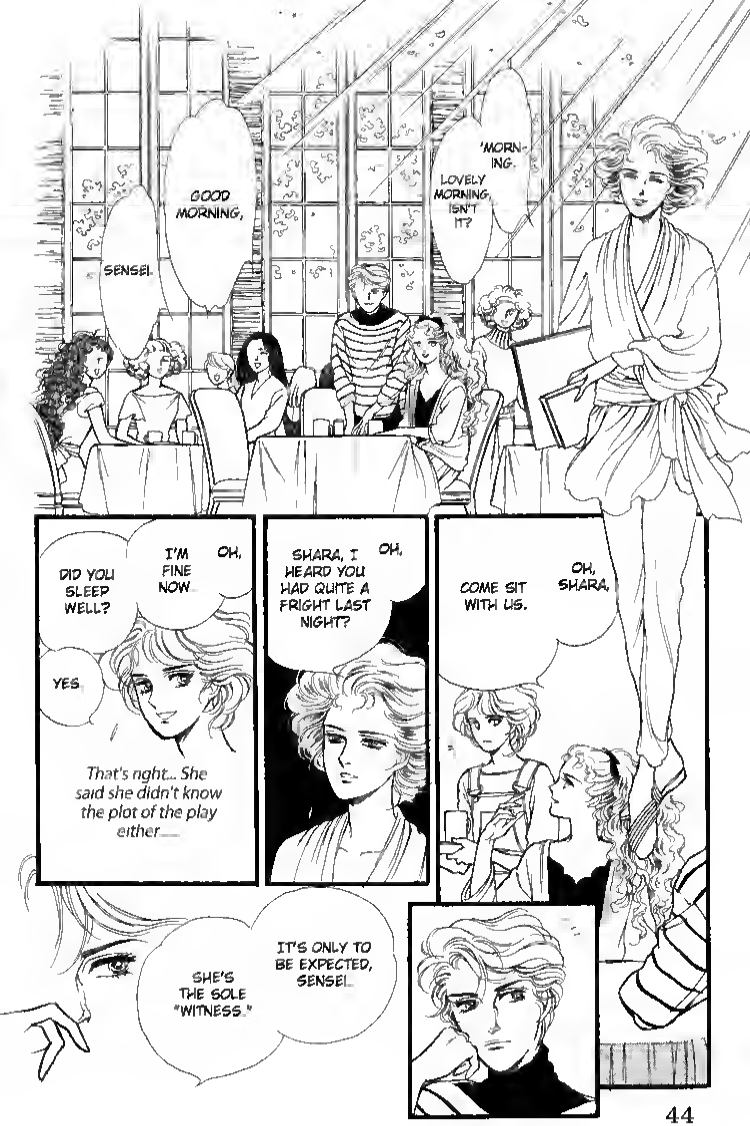
WHAT
DO YOU SUPPOSE— THEY WERE LIKE?
.....HEY.
IT WAS A CLAN-DES-TINE
FLEET-ING,
FOR-BIDDEN LOVE.
THEIR NIGHT-TIME
TRYSTS
The excitement.. as they made their way to the boathouse, and the other side of the coin
the utter desolation when it came time for them to part,
the fear... the apprehension

.....THE DE-SPAIR
THE LONELI-NESS...
Shunack.. ...?

CHATTER!
IS SOMEONE IN THERE—?!
slam!
—!! WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN HERE?!
TWO GIRLS, ALONE— AND AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT!

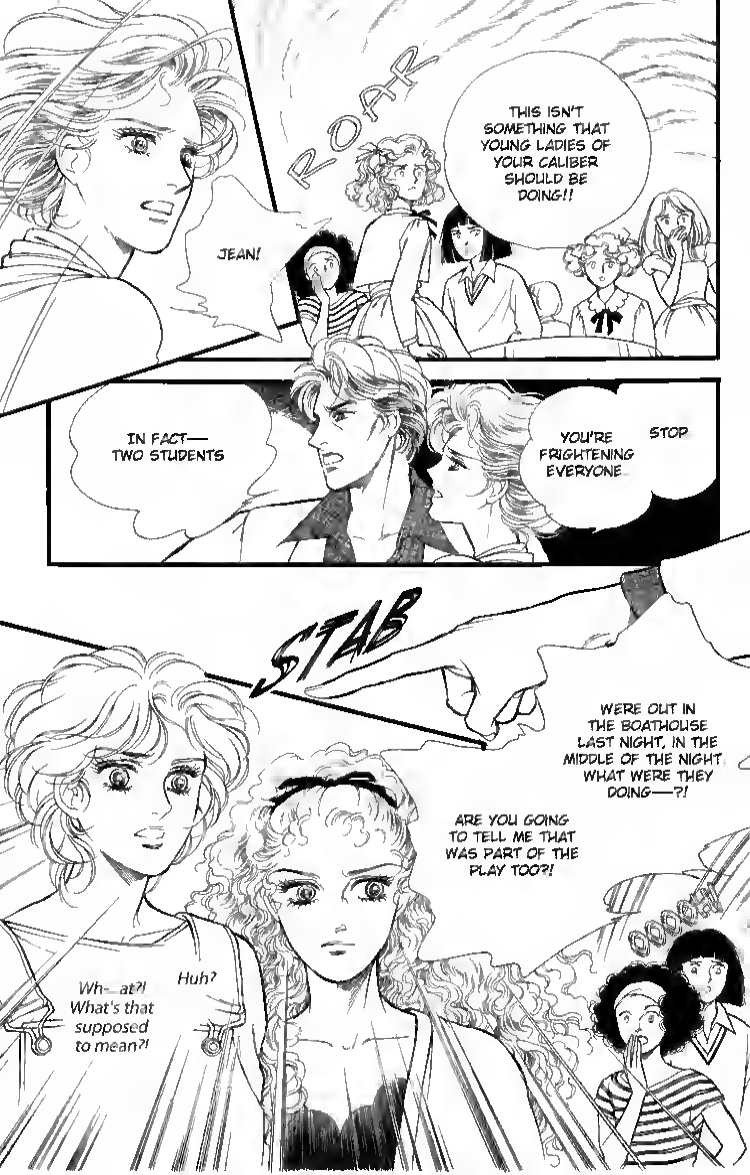
RETURN TO YOUR ROOMS IMMEDIATELY!!
SHUNSUK... WAIT...!
SHUNSUK
SHARA
THE MAN—
WHO CAME INTO YOUR ROOM TONIGHT MIGHT REALLY BE THE MAN FROM THAT INCIDENT 15 YEARS AGO.
HUH?
THIS— MAY JUST BE A GAME, BUT IT MUST BE REMINDING HIM OF HIS OWN GUILT.
IT MUST BE REMINDING HIM OF THE SECRET... THAT HE'S BURIED DEEP IN HIS HEART
FOR THE PAST 15 YEARS
.....

I have no idea— what's going through her head.
Not a clue ....
DON'T YOU THINK?
creak
thud

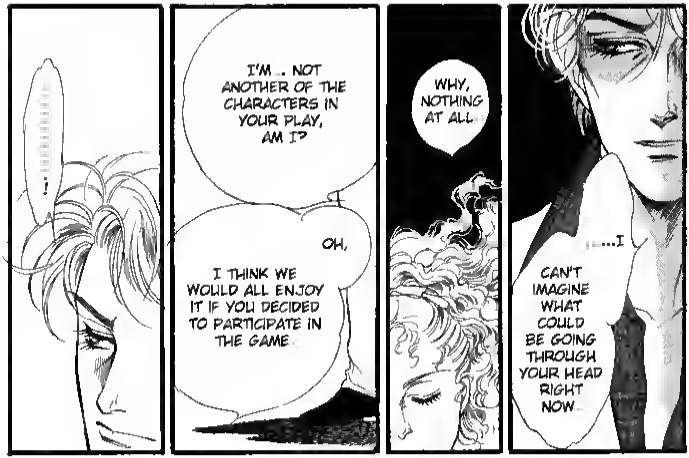

GOOD MORNING, SENSEI.
'MORNING. LOVELY MORNING, ISN'T IT?
OH, I'M FINE NOW.
DID YOU SLEEP WELL?
YES.
That's right... She said she didn't know the plot of the play either...
OH, SHARA, I HEARD YOU HAD QUITE A FRIGHT LAST NIGHT?
OH, SHARA, COME SIT WITH US.
IT'S ONLY TO BE EXPECTED, SENSEI.
SHE'S THE SOLE "WITNESS."

I HAVE AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT TO MAKE NOW
HEHE
YOUR ATTENTION, PLEASE!!
WE'VE UNCOVERED SOME NEW INFORMATION!
WE'VE DISCOVERED SEVERAL LETTERS...
Oooooh!
IN THE LETTERS —
SHE MENTIONS HAVING SECRETLY MET SOMEONE AT THE BOATHOUSE SEVERAL TIMES.
AFTER CAREFULLY CONSIDERING THE CONTENTS OF THE LETTERS,
WE NOW SUSPECT
WHAAAT?!
THAT THE PERSON SHE MET MIGHT HAVE BEEN A TEACHER.—
THAT THE GIRL WROTE TO A FRIEND A SHORT WHILE BEFORE SHE DISAPPEARED.
THEREFORE,
WE'VE DEDUCED THAT PERHAPS "HE" KILLED HER
BECAUSE HE WAS AFRAID THAT THEIR ILLICIT LOVE AFFAIR WOULD BECOME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE...

I'LL NOW.. READ YOU A PASSAGE FROM—
STOP!!
SENSEI.
THIS IS ABSURD YOU PEOPLE— ARE EVEN WILLING TO VIOLATE OTHER PEOPLE'S PRIVACY?
JEAN-SENSEI?
AREN'T YOU A BIT CONFUSED,
THIS IS A GAME
IT INVOLVES VARIOUS SCENES.— THESE LETTERS ARE A PART OF ONE SUCH SCENE.
A GAME!
YOU'RE DIGGING INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S PASTS, RE-OPENING OLD WOUNDS, AND YOU'RE CALLING IT A GAME?
YOU SHOULD STOP THIS RIDICULOUS GAME RIGHT NOW!


ROAR
THIS ISN'T SOMETHING THAT YOUNG LADIES OF YOUR CALIBER SHOULD BE DOING!!
JEAN!
STOP
YOU'RE FRIGHTENING EVERYONE
IN FACT— TWO STUDENTS
STAB
WE'RE OUT IN THE BOATHOUSE LAST NIGHT, IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT. WHAT WERE THEY DOING—?!
ARE YOU GOING TO TELL ME THAT WAS PART OF THE PLAY TOO?!
OOOOH!
Huh?
Wh—at?! What's that supposed to mean?!

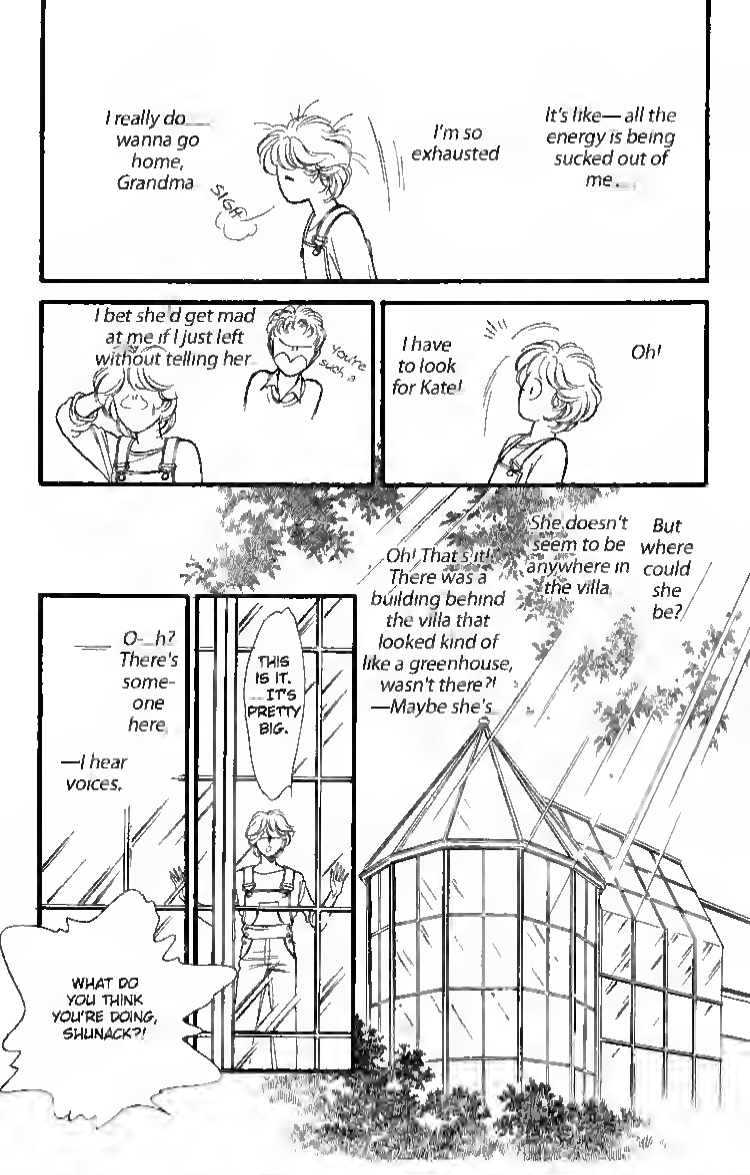
I DON'T QUITE UNDERSTAND, SENSEI!
GRAB!
WE SIMPLY PURSUED A SUSPICIOUS PERSON
AND THEN PROCEEDED TO HAVE A DISCUSSION THERE.
EVERYONE IS AWARE OF THAT FACT
Runs
Pulls
Runs
..... AND WHY WERE YOU
AT THE BOATHOUSE LAST NIGHT, SENSEI?
AND IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, TO BOOT
THEN
WHY DIDN'T YOU REPORT IN TO A TEACHER? IT WAS DANGEROUS OF YOU ALL TO PURSUE HIM LIKE YOU DID!
OH, NEVER MIND... I'M SURE THAT WAS PART OF THE GAME TOO...
COULD IT BE THAT YOU HAD ARRANGED TO MEET SOMEONE THERE?
POAR
approach


!
I'M ... NOT ANOTHER OF THE CHARACTERS IN YOUR PLAY, AM I?
OH,
I THINK WE WOULD ALL ENJOY IT IF YOU DECIDED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GAME.
WHY, NOTHING AT ALL
.....I
CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT COULD BE GOING THROUGH YOUR HEAD RIGHT NOW.

yack.
yack.
yack.
yack.
yack.
I APPRECIATE THE OFFER— BUT NO.
MY TASTE ISN'T SO POOR THAT I'D CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SORT OF GAME.
PLEASE LAY YOUR WORRIES TO REST, SENSEI.
SUCH IS THE NATURE OF GAMES.

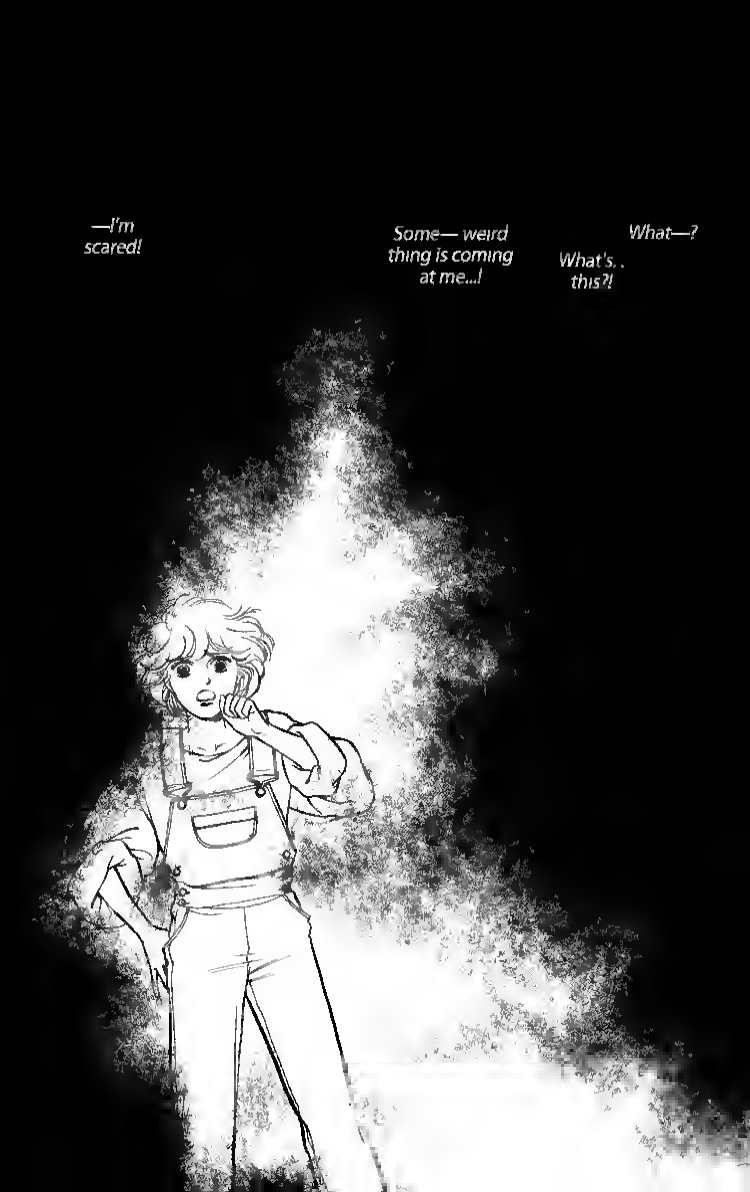
NOW... THEN, EVERY-ONE,
PLEASE QUIETLY RETURN TO YOUR BREAK-FASTS—!
I'M SURE THIS IS ALL JUST A MISUNDER-STANDING ON HIS PART.
ONE OF THE RULES AT THIS VILLA IS THAT WE ALL HAVE FUN
LET'S CONTINUE THE GAME
JUST MAKE SURE NOT TO LET THINGS ESCALATE TOO MUCH...
AND CAUSE US TEACHERS WORRY
ALL RIGHT?
Woooow! Did you see that?!
That scene!
I'LL BE TRUSTING YOU ALL TO EXERCISE YOUR COMMON SENSE.
yack yack
SHUNACK... UM
WHAT WAS HE TRYING TO.....
!

Is she mad at me? Did I— do some-thing wrong?
What?
Whaaat?!
I WONDER WHY THEY DIDN'T GET MARRIED.
Shhhh!
THAT JEAN AND VIVIANE USED TO BE ENGAGED?
COME TO THINK OF IT, IS IT TRUE
HEY,
Chatter Chatter
MY BRAIN'S EVEN TRYING TO WORK IT OUT IN MY SLEEP!
THIS GAME IS REALLY HEATING UP!
sigh
Ever since I got here, something's been yanking me around
There are so many speculations flying around
Why? What's going on in this villa ... and in my heart?
How much of this is the game, and how much of it is real?


I really do wanna go home, Grandma
SIGH
I'm so exhausted
It's like— all the energy is being sucked out of me...
I bet she'd get mad at me if I just left without telling her
You're such a
I have to look for Kate!
Oh!
But where could she be?
She doesn't seem to be anywhere in the villa
Oh! That's it! There was a building behind the villa that looked kind of like a greenhouse, wasn't there?! —Maybe she's
—I hear voices.
—O—h? There's someone here.
THIS IS IT. IT'S PRETTY BIG.
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, SHUNACK?!

It's two of the seniors, Kim and Shunack.
Where's the entrance?
YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH ATTENTION TO HER!
WHAT'S GOING THROUGH YOUR HEAD?!
I DON'T APPRECIATE BEING CRITICIZED LIKE THIS
I KNOW YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH SENSE!
FIRST VIVIANE, AND NOW THIS GIRL?
My head— feels kind of heavy
YOU KNOW HOW I FEEL ABOUT YOU. HOW CAN YOU KEEP...
SHUNACK!
I can't... really hear them
What— are they talking about?
What's going on? —I was fine a minute ago

It feels like—there's someone here with me
Kate?
No, it's not her! Who?!
AHHHH!


—I'm scared!
Some— weird thing is coming at me...!
What—?
What's. . this?!

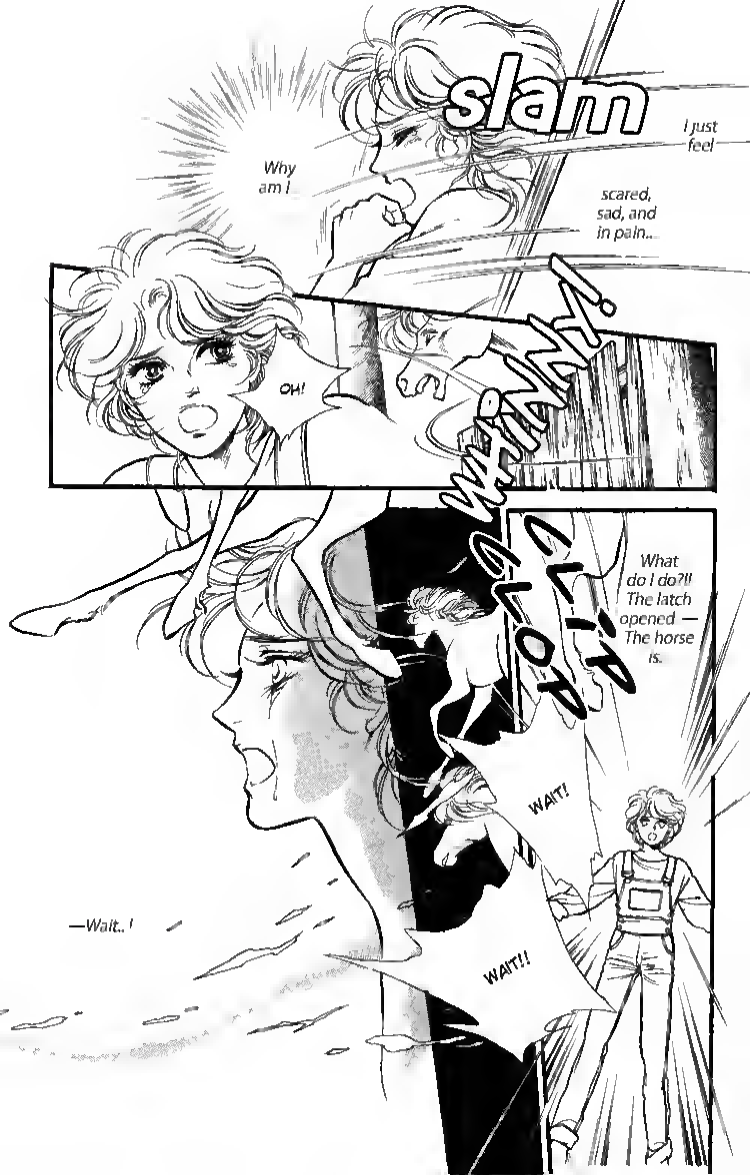
THAT WAS SHARA'S VOICE!
SHE MUST'VE SEEN IT!!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?!
SHUNAK!!
YOU CHOSE THIS SCENARIO, REMEMBER?!
BUT I DON'T WANT SHARA TO HAVE TO SEE HER!
WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH SHARA?! IS SHE SPECIAL OR SOMETHING? WHAT'S GOING ON?!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU!
JEAN ALMOST RUINED THE WHOLE GAME BECAUSE OF HER!
YOU SHOULD JUST LEAVE HER BE!

tmp
tmp
PLEASE
LET GO OF ME...!
SHARA!!
CALM DOWN. IT'S ALL RIGHT!
WHAT HAPPENED? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
WHAT WAS THAT?!
SOMEONE WAS THERE JUST NOW!
WAS THAT PART OF THE GAME TOO?!
SHARA, LET'S CALM DOWN AND TALK ABOUT THIS... EVERYTHING'S ALL RIGHT NOW.....

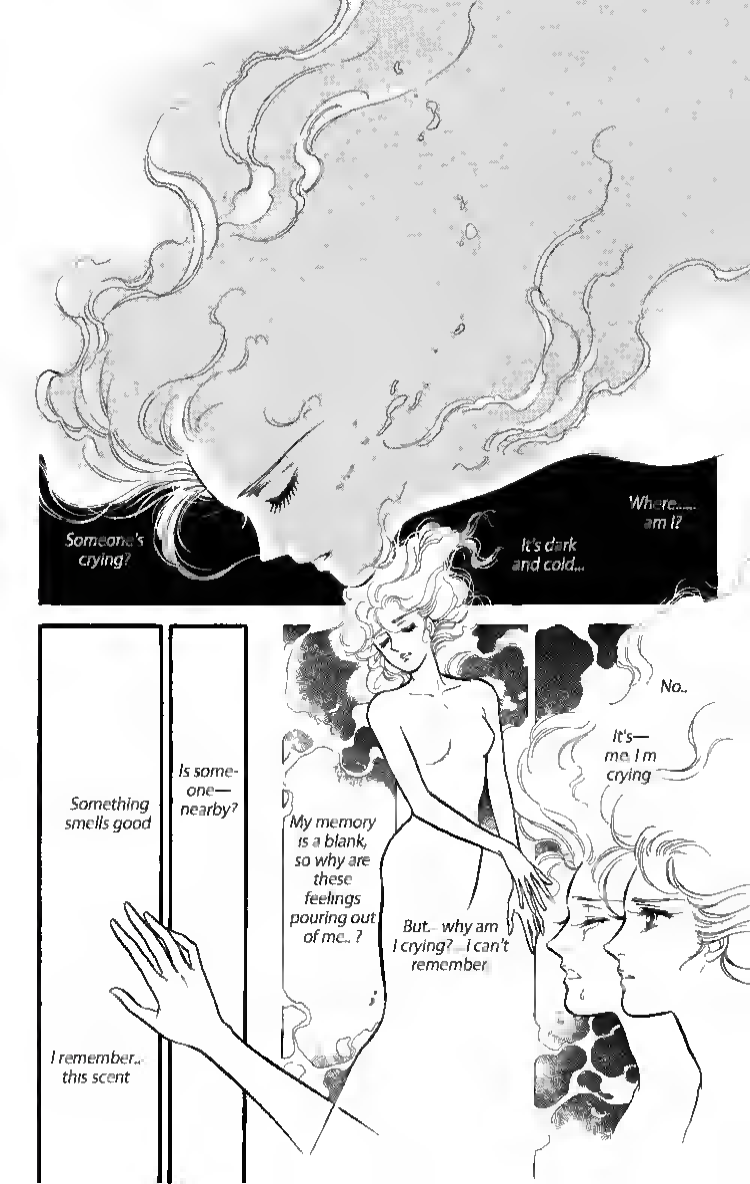
JUST THERE...!
IT WAS... RIGHT THERE.
A WHITE SPECTER DRIFTED ACROSS FROM THERE——
YOU JUST SAW THAT STUDENT'S GHOST...!
THAT'S RIGHT!
A LOT OF OTHER PEOPLE HAVE SEEN IT TOO.
STOP IT! YOU'RE SCARING HER
FINE!! I GET IT NOW
JUST DO WHATEVER YOU WANT!
YOU ALWAYS DO ANYWAY!

I'VE HAD ENOUGH!
I'M SICK OF BEING JERKED AROUND BY YOU—!
What?!
What's going on?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU AT ALL WHAT—
KIM!
THAT'S RIGHT! YOU'VE DONE NOTHING, JUST SAT BACK AND WATCHED!
What is she saying?
I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING TO DESERVE THIS...
WHAT DID I DO?!
I WAS ATTRACTED TO YOU ALL ON MY OWN— I'M JUST A VICTIM OF MY OWN EMOTIONS!
Stop...
I don't want to see... this.

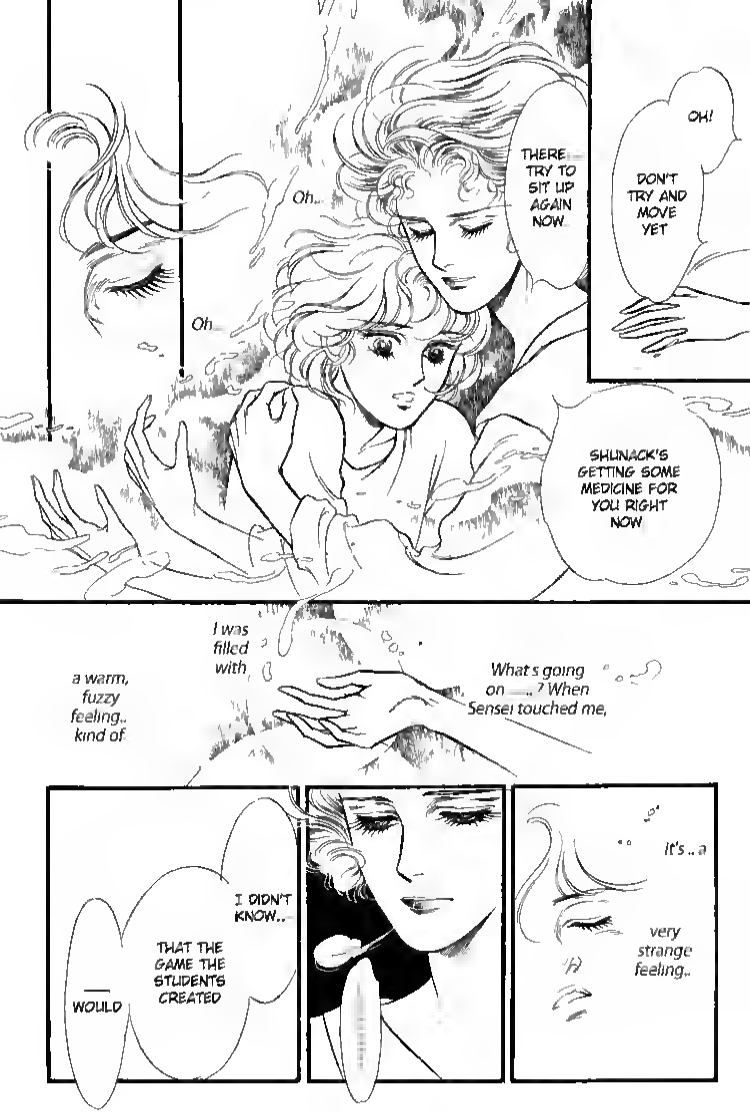
BUT YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND
WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE CONNECTED TO PEOPLE LIKE THAT—!
THAT'S RIGHT! OUR EMOTIONS ARE WHAT TIE US ALL TOGETHER!
Stop it!
Stop
I'm scared!!
What—
What's this awful feeling?!
SHARA?!
Stop it!


slam
I just feel
Why am I
scared, sad, and in pain...
OH!
WHINNY
CLIP CLOP
What do I do?!! The latch opened — The horse is.
WAIT!
WAIT!!
—Wait..!

SHARA! —WATCH OUT!!
Agh..... What do I do? Where did it go.....?
The forest is too big. I can't tell!!
SPLASH
WHAM
Shara!!

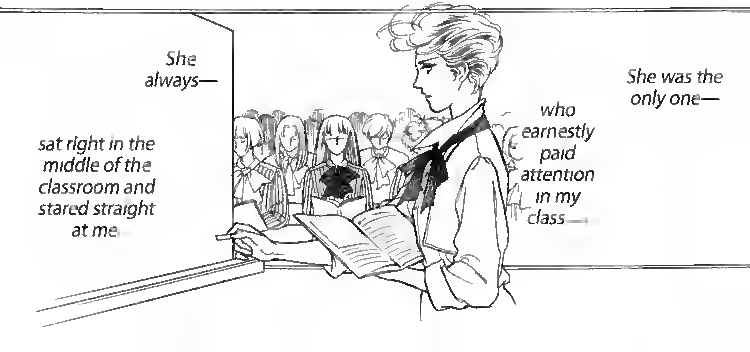

Someone's crying?
It's dark and cold...
Where..... am I?
No..
It's— me. I m crying
But.. why am I crying? I can't remember
My memory is a blank, so why are these feelings pouring out of me.. ?
Is some-one— nearby?
Something smells good
I remember.. this scent

Sha-
Sher-
This is—
Shara...
SHARA?
TELL KIM AND SHUNACK TOO
YES, MA'AM!
GO LET THE OTHER TEACHERS KNOW THAT SHE'S ALL RIGHT NOW
OH, THANK GOODNESS
YOU'VE COME TO
SENSEI?!
WHY..... AM I—
THANK GOODNESS IT WAS ONE OF THE SHALLOW AREAS
YOU FELL IN THE CANAL WHEN YOU JUMPED OUT OF THE WAY OF A HORSE
THE CANAL?
YOU DON'T REMEMBER?


Oh..
Oh..
THERE— TRY TO SIT UP AGAIN NOW
OH!
DON'T TRY AND MOVE YET
SHUNACK'S GETTING SOME MEDICINE FOR YOU RIGHT NOW
I was filled with
a warm, fuzzy feeling.. kind of
What's going on—? When Sensei touched me,
I DIDN'T KNOW..
THAT THE GAME THE STUDENTS CREATED
—— WOULD
It's .. a
very strange feeling..

DID YOU—
KNOW THAT STUDENT, SENSEI?
BE BASED ON THAT INCIDENT, OF ALL THINGS.....
IT HAPPENED— A SHORT WHILE BEFORE YOU WERE BORN
FIFTEEN YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE THEN — AT THE TIME... I'D ONLY JUST BECOME A TEACHER. I WAS SO YOUNG
YES.....

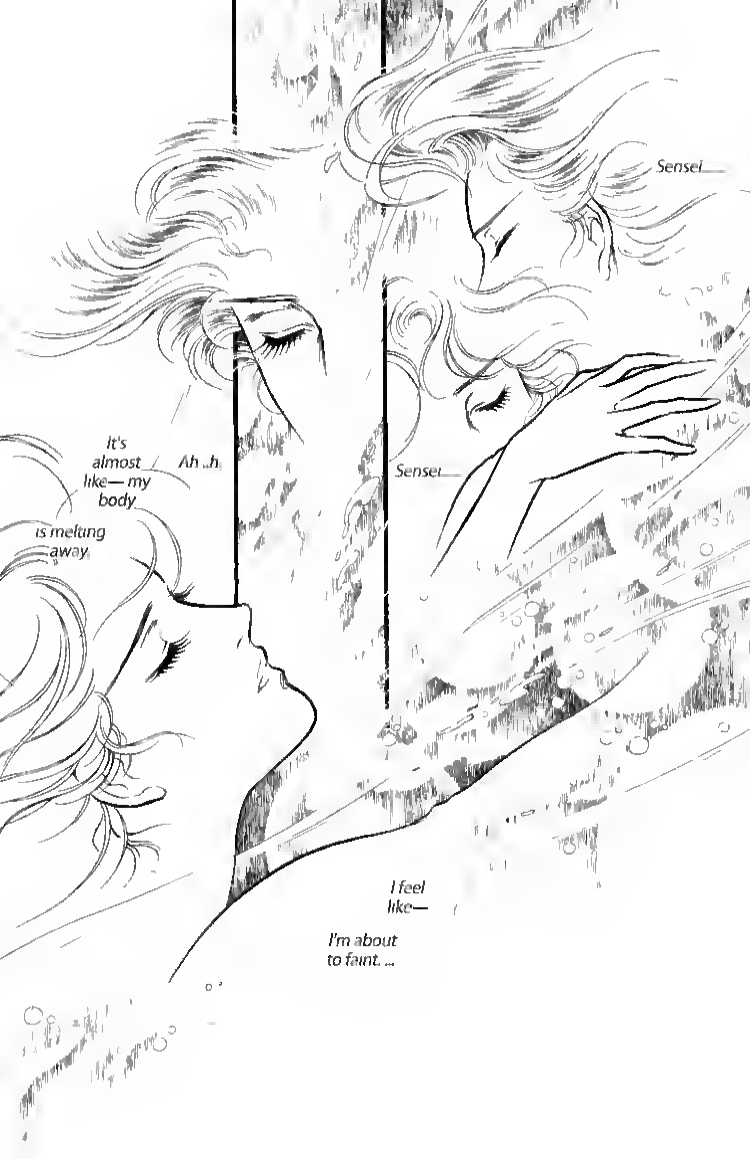
SHE— WAS IN THE OLDEST CLASS OF STUDENTS, THE NINTH-YEARS.
AND I NEVER HAD ANY CONFIDENCE IN MYSELF —
MY STUDENTS— ALL... HATED HISTORY CLASS


She always—
sat right in the middle of the classroom and stared straight at me.
She was the only one—
who earnestly paid attention in my class.

SHE WAS ALWAYS— THE SORT OF GIRL
WHO WORE HER HEART ON HER SLEEVE
SHE WAS HONEST
AND PURE.
Ahhh
The tone of Sensei's voice .. is so pretty.
It feels like it's seeping into my heart...
I
OFTEN FOUND HER COURAGE HEARTENING.
Her fingers are pretty too ..
SHE WAS
JUST LIKE YOU ARE NOW——
I wonder why they're such a pretty shape ... ...
Sheryl.—
She had long hair. The color of her eyes was so deep.
—AND
WE BEGAN CHATTING FROM TIME TO TIME.
WE TALKED
ABOUT HISTORY
ABOUT LIFE, ABOUT LOVE—

Ah_h_
Ah__ her fingers are touching me_
There's_____ that feeling again_
SENSEI ?
AND YET— I_ _
It feels unbelievably_ _
goo-_ _d
JUST LET HER— DIE_
BACK THEN
I_ _
BECAUSE OF ME— SHE
I_ _
SENSEI!

SO PLEASE DON'T..
SO..!
I'M SURE..—IT WASN'T ANYONE'S FAULT..!
I DON'T THINK IT WAS YOUR FAULT, SENSEI!
SHARA..
I can feel..
Such deep sorrow...
Sensei's deep pain...
WHY ARE YOU CRYING..?
WHAT'S THE MATTER.....?
SENSEI..!
AH..H..
SHARA..


Sensei...
Sensei...
It's almost like— my body is melting away
Ah..h
I feel like—
I'm about to faint...

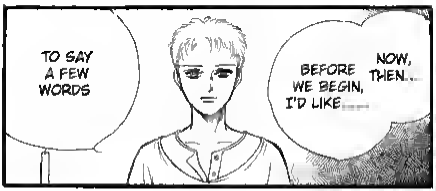
THANK G—
VIVIANE!
SO SHARA'S COME TO?!
OH, SHUNACK
SHE'S FINE NOW.
BUT THERE WERE A NUMBER OF OTHER PEOPLE WHO SAW SOME SORT OF APPARITION— THAT LOOKED LIKE A FEMALE STUDENT.
—SO WE'D LIKE TO HOLD A SEANCE TOMORROW EVENING.
VIVIANE,
WE'VE SPOKEN ABOUT THIS BEFORE,

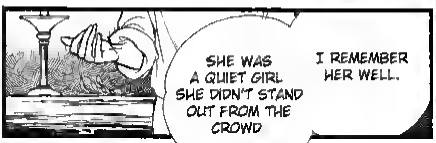
A SEANCE?
YES. THERE'S A WOMAN NAMED GEENA WITH MAJOR PSYCHIC POWERS.
AND BY SOME STRANGE COINCIDENCE, SHE USED TO GO TO THIS SCHOOL, TOO. IN FACT, SHE WAS ONE OF THAT STUDENT'S CLASSMATES!
IT WILL BE AT 8 P.M. AT THE BOATHOUSE
WE'D LIKE FOR YOU AND JEAN-SENSEI TO BE PRESENT.
BUT—
WE JUST GOT PERMISSION FROM JEAN-SENSEI,
ON THE CONDITION THAT TOMORROW'S SEANCE CONCLUDES THE GAME.
JEAN.....
THERE IS NO REASON FOR YOU TO OBJECT TO THIS, VIVIANE.
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO PROMPTED US TO CONTINUE THE GAME, WERE YOU NOT, SENSEI?

LET'S HELP HER DO THAT.
SHE WANTS TO SEE HER LOVER.
I WONDER... WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN?
IT'LL BE A GOOD CONCLUSION FOR THE GAME.
—I CAN'T WAIT FOR TOMORROW NIGHT.
séance...
yack yack
yack yack
Why— do they feel so good?
Sensei's arms,
Sensei's fingers... .

But— now I want to know what's really going on here I want to know the truth
Ever since I got here, I've been so confused all the time— I just wanted to run away
My body— felt like it was melting away
there are these strange feelings that bubble up inside me sometimes, like they're someone's memories
And—
I've been experiencing these feelings that correspond to memories I don't actually have
Ever since I got here
It's like I just can't sit still— like something's got me all stirred up
The first time it happened was in that boathouse —
And it happened again today, when I saw Shunack and Kim arguing... ...

And— I want to know about Sensei, too
—I want to know what they are...
KNOCK KNOCK
VIVIANE...
I NEED TO SPEAK WITH YOU...
FOR A MOMENT— ABOUT TODAY...
Viviane?
CREAK
BZZZ


TO SAY A FEW WORDS
NOW, THEN... BEFORE WE BEGIN, I'D LIKE.....

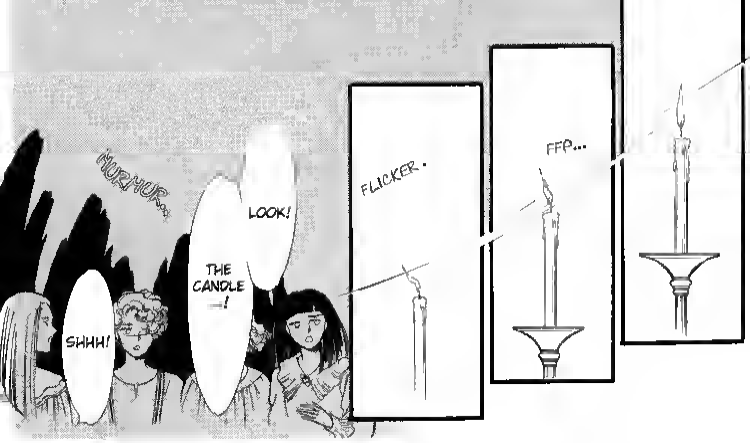

I REMEMBER HER WELL.
SHE WAS A QUIET GIRL SHE DIDN'T STAND OUT FROM THE CROWD

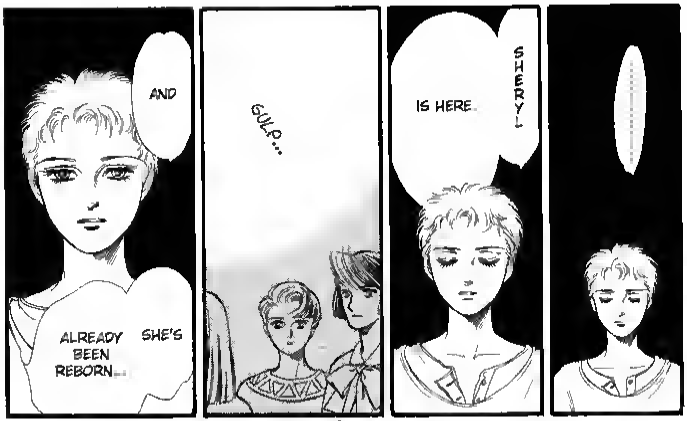
BUT AFTER SHE SUDDENLY WENT MISSING,
I WAS UNABLE TO FORGET HER FOR MANY YEARS

BUT IF
SHE HAS ALREADY PASSED AWAY——
I—— STILL BELIEVE
THAT SHE'S STILL ALIVE OUT THERE SOMEWHERE...
I BELIEVE THAT SHE WILL COME TO US TONIGHT
AND
SHE WANTS TO TELL US SOMETHING,
SHH! QUIET...
MY HEART IS POUNDING
THIS'S KINDA..... SCARY.
WELL—— FIRST OF ALL,
PLEASE QUIETLY CLOSE YOUR EYES
AND MEDITATE ON HER.
LET'S PLACE HER CLOTHES AND LETTERS IN THE CENTER OF THE ROOM,
AND FORM A CIRCLE AROUND THEM, PLEASE, EVERYONE

AS YOU FEEL HER ENERGY,
PLEASE JUST— BELIEVE IN HER EXISTENCE.
AND— PLEASE LET YOUR LOVE AND FAITH FLOW INTO HER.
SILENCE
will Kate—
Or
Will she— really appear?
SHIVER
It's awfully cold

SSHH...
VSSSHHHH
ZSSSHHHH


HUSHUS...
SHHH!
THE CANDLE—!
LOOK!
FLICKER.
FFP...


AND
ALREADY SHE'S BEEN REBORN...
GULP...
SHERYL
IS HERE.

EEK!
WHAT WAS THAT NOISE?!
ガスッ!
SMASH
HUH?!

THERE'S SOMETHING OUTSIDE THE WINDOW!!
EEK...!
Kate?!
HEY! LOOK AT THAT!
STOP—! THAT'S ENOUGH!!
WHO'S OUTSIDE?! THE STUDENT WHO'S PLAYING THE VICTIM?!
OVER THERE, ARE YOU?!
TAP TAP
THIS INFANTILE GAME IS OVER!!
SLAM
WE KNOW EVERYTHING—! COME OUT, RIGHT THIS MINUTE!!

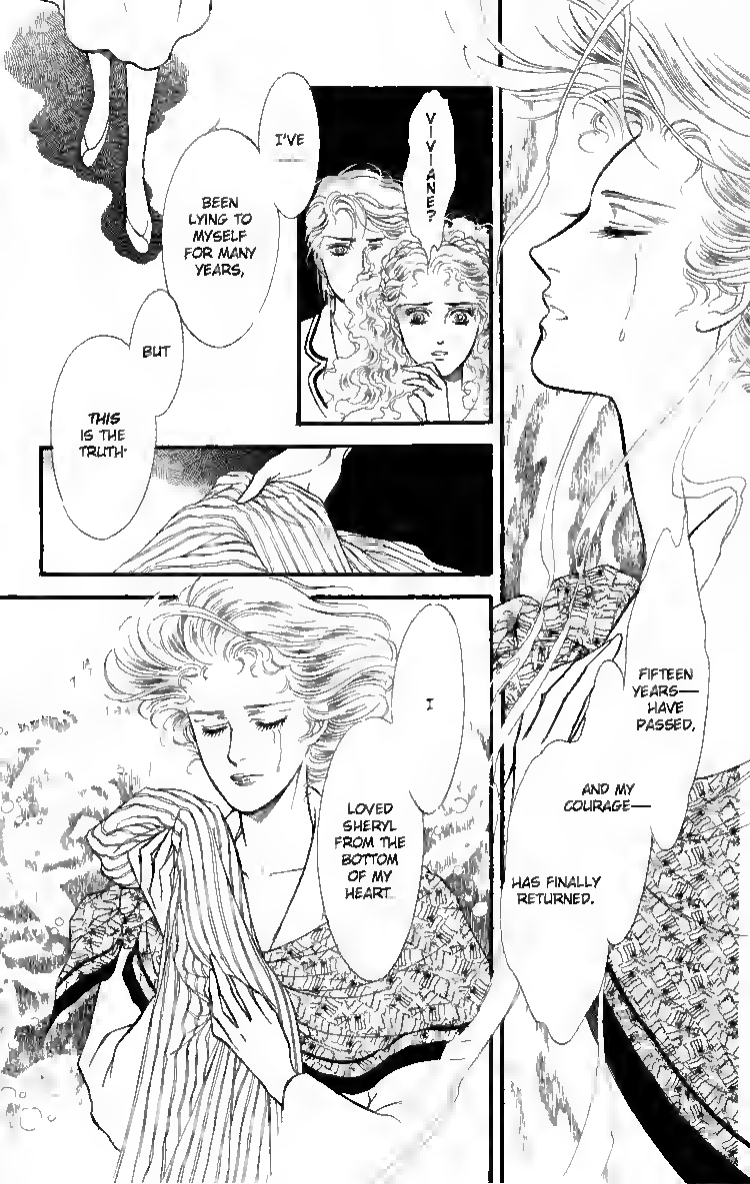
HISSS
IS IT REALLY SUCH A THRILL FOR YOU LOT
KRRRK
PHOO
TO EXPOSE OTHER PEOPLE'S PAIN FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR OWN FRIVOLOUS CURIOSITY?!
WHATEVER HAPPENED HERE 15 YEARS AGO,— IT'S NONE OF YOUR CONCERN!!
LISTEN UP!
YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED— OR TO BLAME ANYONE FOR IT!!
SLAM
THAT'S IT— THE GAME'S OVER NOW!
YOU PROMISED THAT IT WOULD END TONIGHT
NEVER PRY INTO THIS MATTER AGAIN!!

WHAT?!
AND WHAT ABOUT HER?
THO..
SILENCE
DOESN'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO APPORTION BLAME EITHER?
ARE YOU SAYING— THAT SHE, THE ONE WHO DIED,
SHE'S— CRYING OUT TO US, SENSEI!
SKREAK
SHE'S IN PAIN.
THAT'S RIGHT!
WE ARE ACTING IN HER STEAD— IN OUR QUEST TO DISCOVER WHETHER A CRIME ACTUALLY OCCURRED.

YOU—!
IF YOU HAVE A HEART, SENSEI,
YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO HEAR HER.
WHAT—
DID SHE SAY IN HER FINAL MOMENTS?
WHAT— WAS HER LAST REQUEST?!
WHAT WAS THE PROMISE THE TWO OF YOU MADE, THE ONE SHE MENTIONED IN THIS LETTER?
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?
I HAVEN'T THE FAINTEST IDEA WHAT YOU'RE ON ABOUT!!
PLEASE TELL US!!
YES! YOU SHOULD TELL US!
RIDICU-LOUS!!
WHAT DID SHE WANT YOU TO DO WITH HER REMAINS AFTER SHE DIED?!
STOP—!

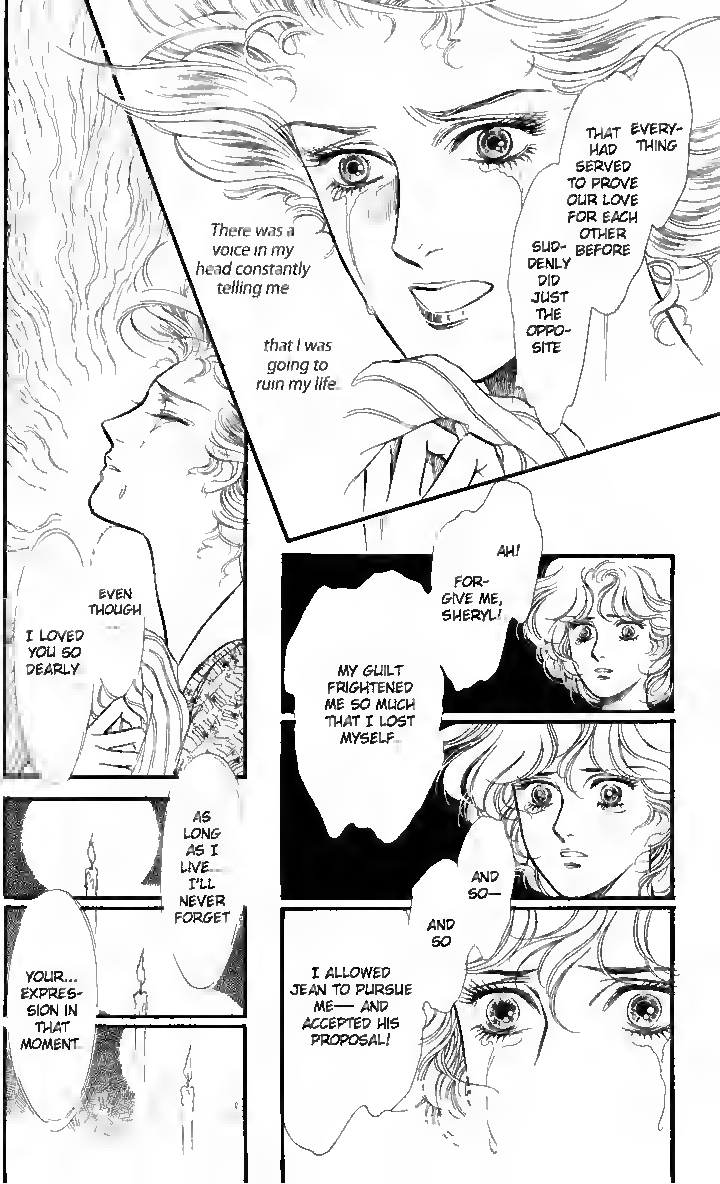
Sensei.....?!
BAM
STOP,—
PLEASE
FORGIVE ME, JEAN CLAUDE
IT'S ALL— MY FAULT
VIVIANE!
VIVIANE
THERE IS NO REASON FOR YOU TO BLAME YOURSELF!! YOU'RE A VICTIM HERE AS WELL!

NO, NO! THAT'S NOT WHAT HAPPENED!
HE— WAS YOUR FIANCE HE BETRAYED BOTH OF YOU.
I KNEW THAT EVERYONE SUSPECTED JEAN, AND I STILL—
DON'T, VIVIANE!
BACK THEN—
15 YEARS AGO—
YOU STOPPED ME,
BUT I SHOULD HAVE INSISTED. I SHOULD HAVE TOLD EVERYONE THE TRUTH, RIGHT THERE AND THEN—!
I SHOULD HAVE SAID IT ALL BACK THEN.
THEY'VE DONE ENOUGH ALREADY!
THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO SAY ANYTHING RIGHT NOW!
NO! LET ME TELL THEM


VIVIANE?
I'VE BEEN LYING TO MYSELF FOR MANY YEARS,
BUT THIS IS THE TRUTH.
I LOVED SHERYL FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.
FIFTEEN YEARS— HAVE PASSED,
AND MY COURAGE—
HAS FINALLY RETURNED.

SHERYL.
SHERYL.
SHERYL.
I LOVED YOU SO DEEPLY
THAT— IS THE TRUTH AND YET I...
Sensei...!
You, dozing— in the afternoon sunlight
You, smiling in the light...
The confession aboard a drifting boat—...
The days— we passed together ...

You— were only 18.....
We discussed life, sought each other out,
and— loved one another
I used to don a cloak, afraid of being seen,
and sneak out to the boat-house to see her.
If— anyone were to find out about that... ..!
NO..!
AND YET—
AROUND THAT TIME—
JEAN, WHO SECRETLY BORE SOME AFFECTIONS FOR ME,
ASKED ME TO MARRY HIM.
AND— EVERYTHING WAS SUDDENLY SO FRIGHTENING ....

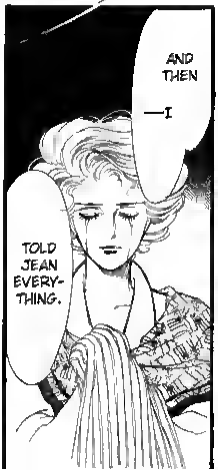

There was a voice in my head constantly telling me
that I was going to ruin my life
THAT EVERYTHING HAD SERVED TO PROVE OUR LOVE FOR EACH OTHER BEFORE SUDDENLY DID JUST THE OPPOSITE
EVEN THOUGH I LOVED YOU SO DEARLY
AS LONG AS I LIVE... I'LL NEVER FORGET
YOUR... EXPRESSION IN THAT MOMENT
AH! FORGIVE ME, SHERYL!
MY GUILT FRIGHTENED ME SO MUCH THAT I LOST MYSELF...
AND SO—
AND SO
I ALLOWED JEAN TO PURSUE ME— AND ACCEPTED HIS PROPOSAL!

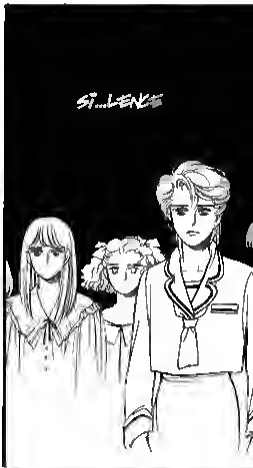
"meet with me one last time."
But please
I'm going to sneak out of the villa and go to the boathouse I'll definitely be there
So please— come that one last time
You said nothing at first. You just cried
Then you looked at me and said,
I spent the whole night running around, looking for her.
I became frantic. It was as though I'd lost my mind.
KOAAAAAK...
PYOOO...
A STORM WAS RAGING. THE RAIN WAS POUNDING DOWN, AND THE WINDS WERE BRUTAL...
IT WAS— A NIGHT JUST LIKE THIS ONE.
BUT— SHE NEVER CAME.

SHERYL!
SHERYL!
Over the hill, in the abandoned shack...
I searched the forest— the swamps—
If— Jean hadn't realized what I was doing and stopped me...
I would've—

Why— didn't she come to the boathouse that night? What happened to her?

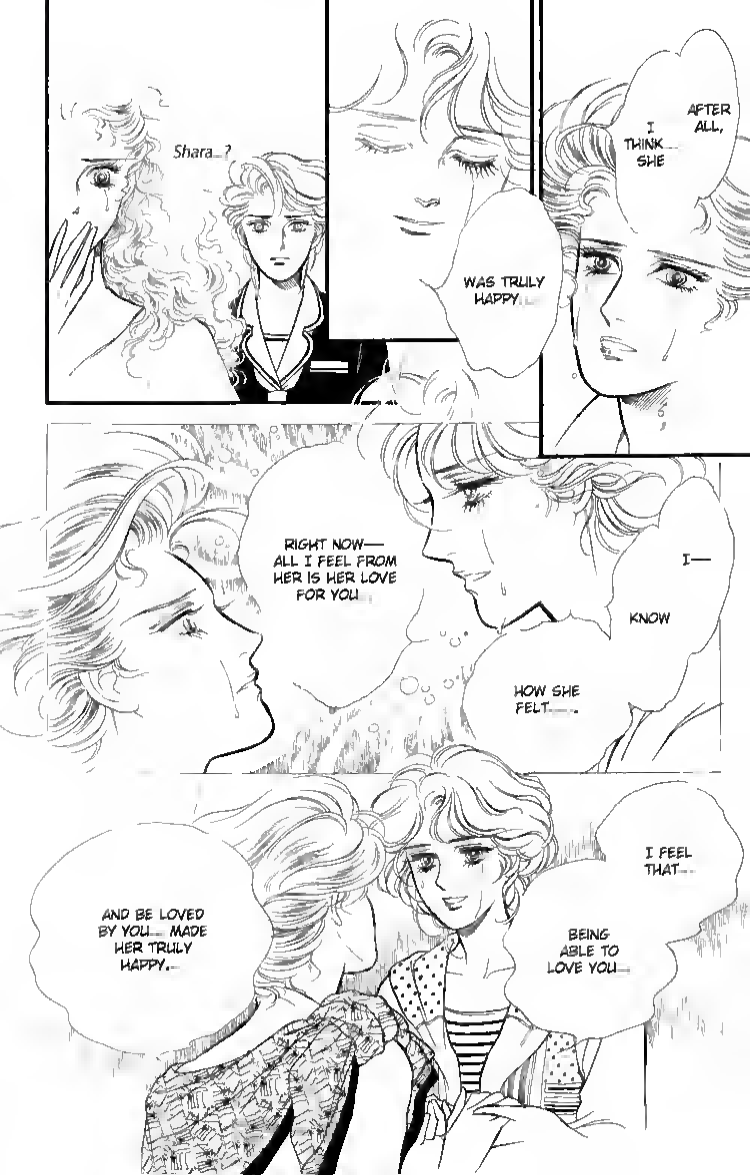
Nobody— was able to discover the answers to those questions.

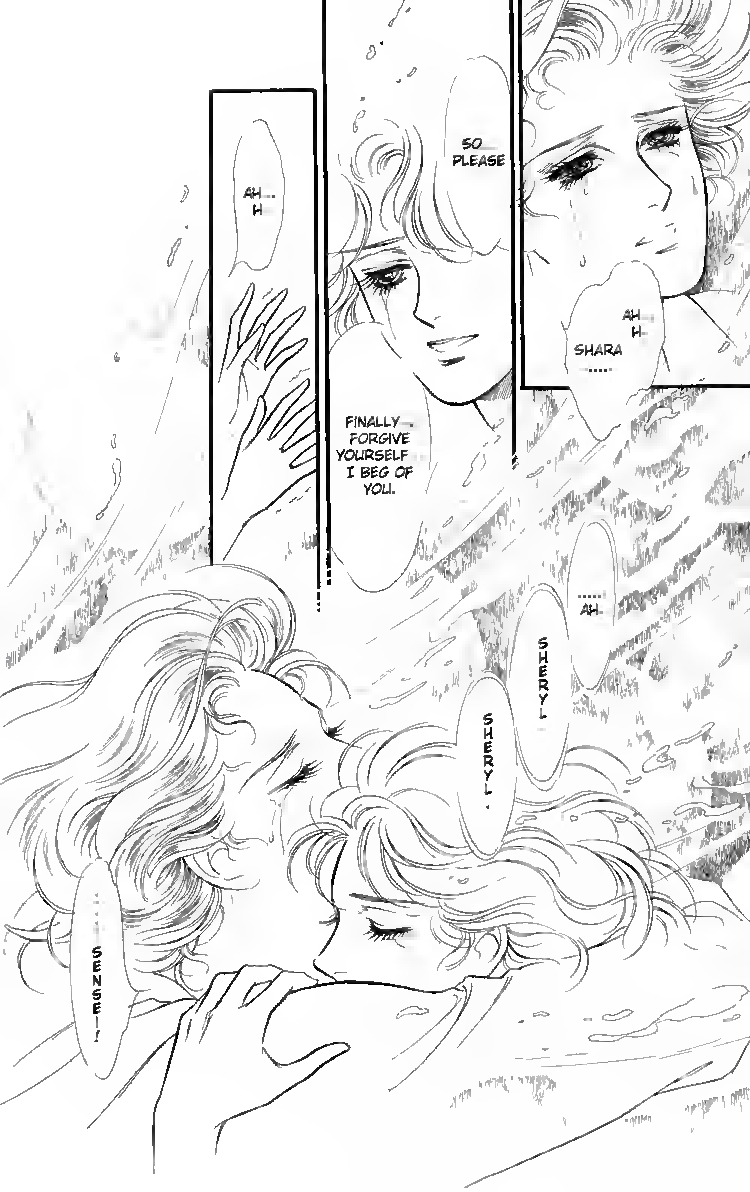




BUT—
BUT... THERE IS ONE THING I KNOW FOR CERTAIN...!
THAT I—
DROVE HER TO HER DEATH...!
I—
I KILLED HER.
SLUMP
I.....
MANE!
ENOUGH
THAT'S ENOUGH
YOU'VE SUFFERED ENOUGH!!
NOBODY BLAMES YOU!
NO NO, JEAN. I...
I WAS THE ONE WHO...
SWIZ

SENSEI
.....
PLEASE
—
STOP
BLAMING YOURSELF FOR THIS
Shara—...?


Shara...?
WAS TRULY HAPPY...
I THINK... SHE
AFTER ALL,
RIGHT NOW— ALL I FEEL FROM HER IS HER LOVE FOR YOU...
HOW SHE FELT...
KNOW
I—
AND BE LOVED BY YOU... MADE HER TRULY HAPPY.
BEING ABLE TO LOVE YOU...
I FEEL THAT...


SO PLEASE
AH... H
SHARA .....
AH... H
FINALLY... FORGIVE YOURSELF I BEG OF YOU.
..... AH.
SHERYL
SHERYL.
.....SENSEI!

Sensei...!

WHAT SHERYL'S LAST REQUEST WAS...
BUT... MAYBE THAT WAS FOR THE BEST.
SO, WE NEVER FOUND OUT
WE COULDN'T ASK SENSEI ANY MORE QUESTIONS ABOUT IT, SO
I THINK...
SHE PROBABLY WANTED... HER ASHES TO BE SCATTERED OVER THE CANAL.
...WHY?
UM... BECAUSE IT'S CONNECTED TO THE BOAT-HOUSE.....
I DON'T REALLY KNOW... I JUST SORT OF GOT THAT FEELING....
I WONDER... WHERE SENSEI'S PLANNING TO GO NOW THAT SHE'S RE-SIGNED....

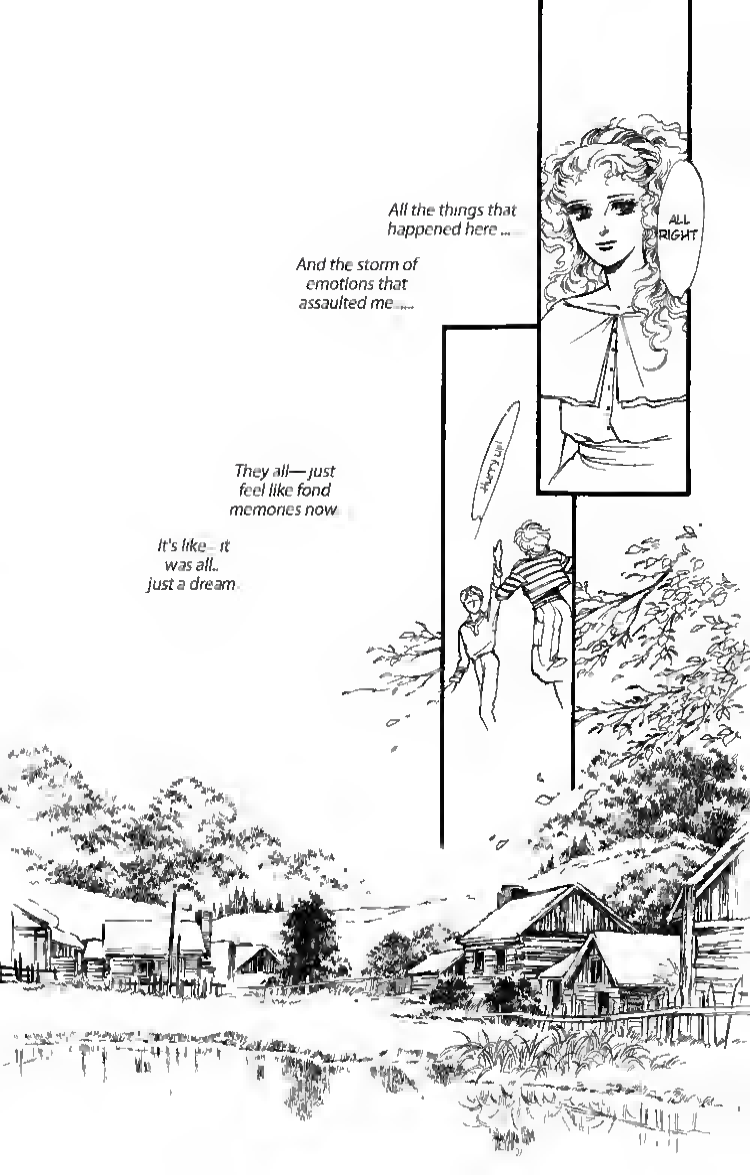
What
was their
love for
each other
like... ...?
SENSEI
AND
THAT
GIRL...
Did they
ever waver?
to love someone
of the same sex—?
What was it
like for them
Were they
ever afraid—?
SHIRA

Shunack...

YEA--...H.
ARE YOU READY TO GO?
WE'RE LEAVING IN 15 MINUTES.
KATE.
THE TWO WEEKS JUST FLEW BY DIDN'T—
ACHOO!!

SHA--..RA

YOU OKAY?
YEAH. BUT STANDING OUT IN THE RAIN FOR TWO HOURS'LL TAKE IT'S TOLL ON YOU.
IT'S BECAUSE YOU GOT PICKED TO BE THE VICTIM
I LIKED IT AT FIRST,
BUT IT GOT LONELY AFTER A WHILE... OH! I'M SORRY I SCARED YOU THAT NIGHT I SNUCK IN.
OH...
SO... THAT WAS YOU, KATE.
UH-... HUH.
WHO DID YOU THINK IT WAS?
OH, NO ONE.....
I— probably just imagined everything
SHUNACK.
I'D LIKE TO...
HAVE A BRIEF WORD WITH YOU IN THE CAR.....
!!


All the things that happened here ...
And the storm of emotions that assaulted me.....
They all— just feel like fond memories now
It's like - it was all.. just a dream
ALL RIGHT
HURRY UP!

If I— should end up dying first,

I ask— that you please

incinerate my remains

and scatter them in the canal,

so I— can come see you at the boathouse whenever we wish, Sensei.....

Bruges/End

Scanned by Sailor Awaken

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